



# EDGE

EMPOWERMENT • DIVERSITY • GROWTH • EQUALITY

House of Iran  
Quarterly Publication

Editorial  
Sussan Johnsen  
Ebrahim Davodi Far

March  
2017

## OUR MISSION

To introduce and promote the rich and diverse heritage of Iranian culture amongst people of all nationalities and ethnic background

### *Message from the President*

Dear friends and supporters of House of Iran. It is March, our days are getting longer and brighter, the harshness of winter is behind us, we can open our windows, smell the fresh lawn outside, enjoy watching the new leaves on our trees and blossoming of fresh colorful flowers in our flower beds, we can hear and admire the love songs of birds around us as they cherish the birth of their babies, all signs of nature's rejuvenation and all signs that the spring, and with that, Persian new year is around us. On behalf of the Board of Directors of House of Iran and myself, I wish every one of you, our valued members and supporters, and I wish millions of Persians who live in 13 countries around the world a Happy and Prosperous Nowruz, I wish peace on earth and serenity amongst all nations around the world. Nowruz is the greatest tradition left for us by our ancestors and it is up to us to keep it alive and pass it on to our new generations.

About 25 years ago, in 1992, a group of what I call pioneer team of House of Iran got together, established House of Iran as a chartered member of House of Pacific Relations in Balboa Park. Fundraising was done, and many of you trusted us and gave donations, or volunteered hundreds of hours of volunteer work and service towards building the cottage in Balboa Park. The permits were granted and the ground breaking took place in the year 2,000. It was not till 2003 that the construction of the cottage was completed. However, in March of 1992, the first Ruz-e-Iran Festival was celebrated on the stage in Balboa Park. House of Iran celebrates a quarter of century of sharing the Persian cultural values with visitors to the Park, and that calls for a special celebration, on Sunday, March 26th, on the same stage, in Balboa Park. House of Iran brings the largest crowd to Balboa Park for Nowruz, and this year I hope to see more of you among us.

It is time to renew your membership. Your membership is good for the current calendar year and it will cover you through the end of December of 2017.

House of Iran suffered from loss of an outstanding member of its pioneer team, a former President and a great supporter of House of Iran. We miss our beloved Mr. Abbas Abbasov, who lost his life to a sudden stroke. He left planet earth to be with his creator on January 22nd of this year. My thoughts and Prayers are with Abbasov family. I will miss him and I will never forget all he did for House of Iran.

The City of San Diego renewed its permit with House of Pacific Relations and as result, all houses have to be open to public not only on Sundays, but most Saturdays from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. To see the schedule of Saturday opening days for House of Iran, please refer to our web site.



With warm regards and wishes for the best Nowruz ever,  
Sussan Johnsen

*We Are Hoping For The Peace And Freedom Throughout The World*



## Board of Directors

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Sussan Johnsen

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House of Iran

PO Box 86006  
San Diego, CA 92138

Visit our website

[www.TheHouseOfIran.com](http://www.TheHouseOfIran.com)

Check us on Facebook!

**March  
2017**

## Nowruz Piruz

Nowruz, New Day, in Farsi language is a celebration of Persian New Year that goes back to 2,000 B.C., which is about 4,000 years ago.

When the first into Europeans settled in the plateau of Persia, the winters were harsh, long and cold. However, the beginning of spring, with the new leaves on the trees, fruit trees in blossoms and birth of baby birds in their nests promised them the end of harshness and beginning of new growth, thus, they celebrated the beginning of spring as their new year, with new hopes. Persians used to sprout 7 legumes or seeds before Nowruz because 7 was the lucky number. At Nowruz time, they saw which one has grown more, and that told them what to plant and harvest during that year.

Nowruz coincides with vernal equinox, which is the balance of day and night, when the day and night are both approximately 12 hours. Nowruz celebration is not limited to Iran, but approximately 13 other countries and people of Persian descents, all over the world regardless of their religious background or which continent they live in, celebrate Nowruz.

In Iran, families gather around a spread of Haft Sinn table. There are two items that are essential to Haft Sinn table, mirror and candle, both represent light and enlightenment in our lives. People decorate their spreads with spring flowers, coins, a holy or poetry book, painted eggs, gold fish in a bowl of water, and they put seven edible items, starting with letter "S", or Sinn in Farsi, that come from vegetables and nature in the spread. The seven items are symbolic and they represent renewal, affluence, medicine, health and beauty, sunrise, age and patience, all virtues of a bright and joyful year.

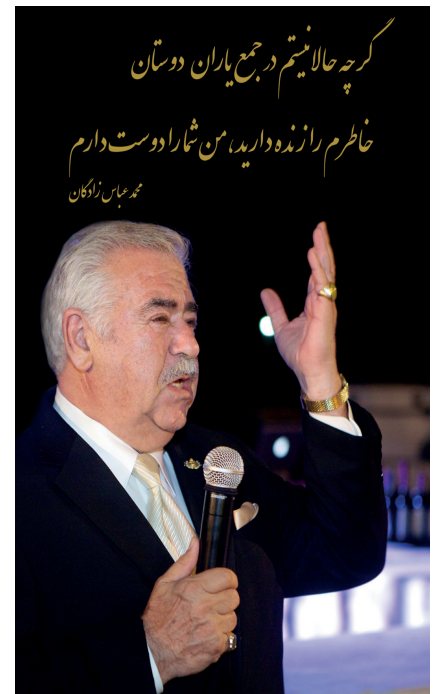
The United Nation's General Assembly in 2010 recognized the international Day of Nowruz, describing it a "spring festival of Persian origin". The United States House of Representatives passed the Nowruz Resolution in 2010 as well, "Recognizing the Culture and Historical significance of Nowruz".

We wish every one of you a Happy Nowruz, Nowruz Piruz.

## In Loving Memory of Mr. Abbas Abbasov

House of Iran conveys its heartfelt condolences to the Abbasov Family, specially to Mrs. Mali Abbasov, their son and daughter in law, Mr. and Mrs. Kazi Abbasov, and to their grandchildren, Seth, Jasmin and Cameron Abbasov, for the loss of their loved one and our beloved House of Iran supporter, former Board member and former President of House of Iran, Mr. Abbas Abbasov.

For years, we have all witnessed all the hard work and dedication from Abbasov family, especially Mr. and Mrs. Abbasov, to the House of Iran. Unfortunately, Mr. Abbasov passed away on January 22nd of this year. A beautiful ceremony to celebrate his well lived life was held in Sufi Restaurant, with many people, his family, friends and House of Iran members in attendance, on February 2nd, 2017. House of Iran appreciates all that Mr. Abbasov has done for House of Iran. We are positive he will continue supporting House of Iran from heaven, he will be missed! May he be at peace and tranquility and may he float among God's angels in heaven. May Almighty God bless his beautiful soul.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

## *Chahar Shanbeh Soori*

***Tuesday March 14th 2017 7:00 to 10:00 PM***

***Location: NTC Park, 2455 Cushing Road***

***San Diego, CA 92106***

*Sponsored by: AIAP, PCC, House of Iran*



### *Rouz-e-Iran*

## *Celebration of Nowruz*

## *House of Iran 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary*

***Sunday March 26th 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM***

*Location: House of Iran, Balboa Park, San Diego*

**MC: Shally Zomorodi**

*Music: Farishah Barzin, Talebzadeh*

***Dance: Azam Farsoudi Group***

*DJ Mohsen at 4:00 PM*



## *Zizdeh Bedar*

***Sunday April 2nd, 2017 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM***

***Location: NTC Park, 2455 Cushing Road***

*San Diego, CA 92106*

*Sponsored by: AIAP, PCC, House of Iran*







House of Iran  
PO Box 86006  
San Diego, CA 92138

**House of Iran is open  
every Saturday and  
Sunday from 12:00 to  
5:00 PM**



*Chanel 5 Fox News will celebrate Nowruz with us  
at House of Iran on New Year 's Day!*

*Reporter: Heather Lake*

نوروزتان پیروز  
**House of Iran**  
Celebrating  
**NOWRUZ**  
Persian New Year  
Food, Music, Dance  
March 26th, 2017  
From 11:00 to 6:00 PM  
Stage performance starts at 2:00 PM  
DJ Mohsen at 4:00 PM  
Balboa Park, San Diego

